A.—(*a*) The strength of the Bench is 15.

(*b*) The present President is a Bar.-at-Law and a landlord paying a large amount of assessment to Government. His predecessor was a law graduate and a retired Sub-Judge.

(*c*) A list showing the names of the magistrates with their qualifications is appended.[a]

(*d*) Forty cases were transferred to other courts. The classes of offences and the magistrates by whom transfers were made are shown below :—

Offences.	Number of cases transferred.	By whom transferred.
Indian Penal Code	27	Subdivisional Magistrate.
District Municipalities Act ..	2	Do.
Town Nuisance Act	3	Do.
Hackney Carriage Act	1	Do.
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.	4	Do.
Motor Vehicles Act	3	District Magistrate.

(*e*) Thirteen cases under the Motor Vehicles Act were tried during the year out of which twelve ended in conviction.

(*f*) The Government are inquiring into the matter.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" Arising out of the answer to clause (*b*), may I know whether any qualifications are prescribed for the presidentship of first-class Bench Courts in any place in this Presidency ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" No qualifications are prescribed. But qualifications are generally expected."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" With reference to clause (*d*), may I just ask the hon. the Law Member whether a subdivisional officer is not bound to show reasons when he transfers cases from the first-class bench magistrates' file to the file of any other court under section 528, clause (5), of the Criminal Procedure Code ? "

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I presume that when cases are transferred they are transferred on account of specific reasons."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Is it a fact that the magistrates are not asking for the reasons against a transfer when an application for transfer is made ?

" I take that statement made by the hon. the Law Member as authentic and it will be included in the enquiry referred to in clause (*f*)."

Composition of the Bench Court, Tirupattur.

* 131 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN : With reference to question No. 563 answered on 20th March 1925 regarding the Bench Court at Tirupattur, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the information has already been called for ; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will lay the same on the table of this Council ?

[a] Printed as Appendix X on page 270 infra.

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The information furnished by the District Magistrate with reference to clauses (*b*) and (*d*) of the question referred to is given below :—

Clause (*b*) *of question No.* 563.—Yes.

Clause (*d*) *of question No.* 563.—The following is a list of the Honorary Magistrates in the Bench Court at Tirupattur :—

Name of member.	Community to which he belongs.
(1) M.R.Ry. N. Narasinga Rao Avargal.	Christian.
(2) Sahib Peeran Sahib Bahadur ...	Muhammadan.
(3) M.R.Ry. Govindaswami Kavandan Avargal	Non-Brahman.
(4) M.R.Ry. T. P. V. Chandroya Chettiyar Avargal	Do.
(5) M.R.Ry T. N. Hanumantha Upasakar Avargal	Adi-Dravida.
(6) M.R.Ry. C. Krishna Rao Avargal.	Brahman.
(7) „ T. V. Sitarama Ayyar Avargal	Do
(8) M.R.Ry. C. Samundi Kavandan Avargal	Non-Brahman.
(9) Muhammad Ghouse Sahib Bahadur ...	Muhammadan.
(10) Khan Sahib Salar Sahib Bahadur ...	Do.
(11) M.R.Ry. G. V. Job Avargal	Christian.

Appointments to the Mettupalayam Bench Court, Coimbatore district.

* 132 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that three Brahmans and two non-Brahmans were already appointed Honorary Bench Magistrates to the Mettupalayam Bench Court, Coimbatore district;

(*b*) whether two more Brahmans have been recommended for appointment; and

(*c*) if so, why no member of the depressed classes was recommended as Honorary Bench Magistrate ?

A.—(*a*) Prior to April 1925 there were five members on the Bench. Of these two were officials and three non-officials. Of the three non-officials two were Brahmans. In April 1925 a Muhammadan gentleman was appointed as an additional member.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The question does not arise.